

County Snapshot

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Mariposa County is located in the central Sierra Nevada foothills. The surrounding counties include Merced on the west, Madera on the south, Tuolumne on the north and Mono on the east. It is home to Yosemite National Park, a primary tourist attraction.

Mariposa County's projected population is expected to reach 23,400 by 2020. This represents an increase of 40 percent or an addition of approximately 6,600 new residents.

The 1999 annual average civilian labor force for Mariposa County was 6,700 with an unemployment rate of 7.5 percent. For this period, the state had an annual average unemployment rate of 5.2 percent.

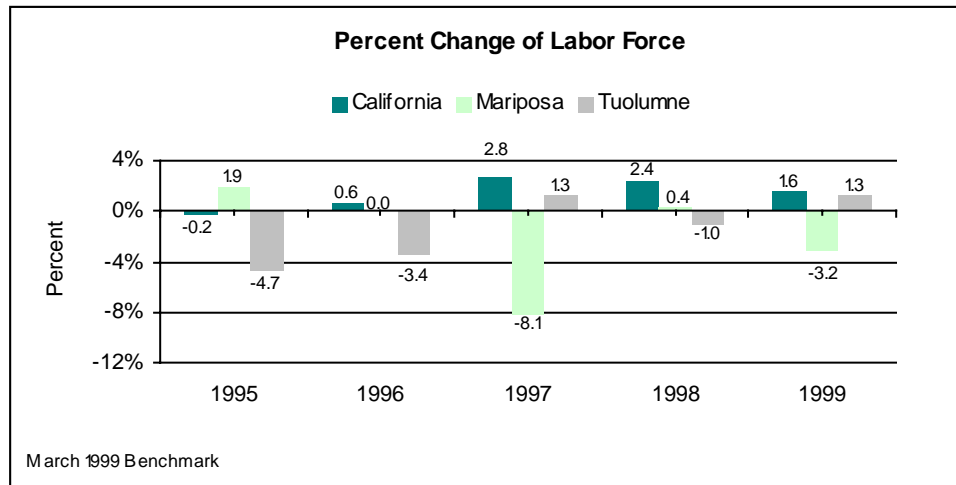
The services industry sector was the largest employer in Mariposa County accounting for 42 percent of the total industry employment in 1999. Most of the year over growth in 1999 occurred in businesses involved in food service. The health services industry also added jobs in 1999 with 12.5 percent growth. Another significant industry sector is government with over 34 percent of the employment in the county.

Moderate growth is projected in the county during the 1997-2004 forecast period. Most of the major industry sectors of the economy are expected to grow with the largest gains projected to be in the services, government and retail trade industries. The services industry is expected to add about 800 jobs primarily in the hotels and other lodging places industry. Retail trade is projected to add approximately 200 jobs with gains concentrated in the area of eating and drinking places, and the government industry is expected to add more than 250 jobs with the greatest gains in local government.

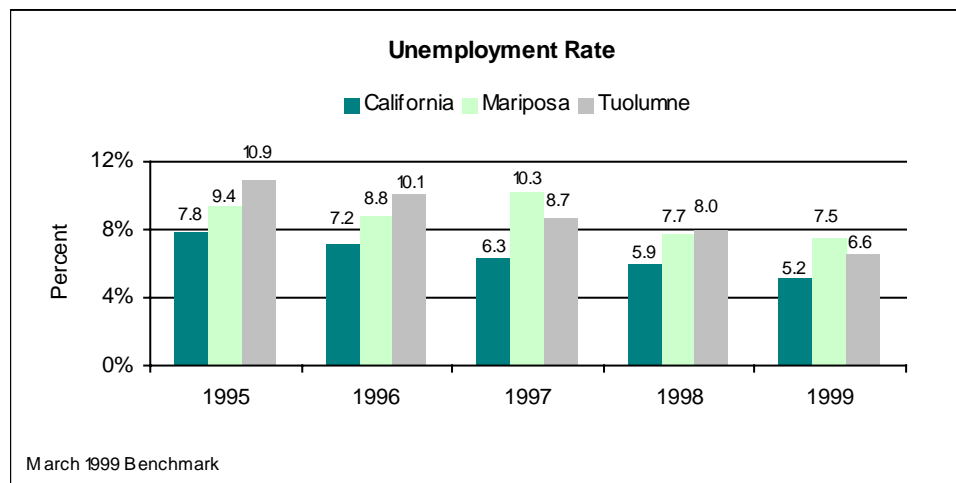
Economic conditions in counties where tourism and recreation are important factors in the local economy are more likely to have greater seasonal variations in the employment patterns. Despite fluctuations in labor force and industry employment, the county is projected to experience growth during the 1997-2004 forecast period.

LABOR FORCE

The fluctuating growth and decline in Mariposa County's civilian labor force is due in part to the economic effects of a tourist dependent economy. For example, weather related disasters such as the winter storms in 1996 caused the closure of Yosemite National Park to visitors for most of 1997.

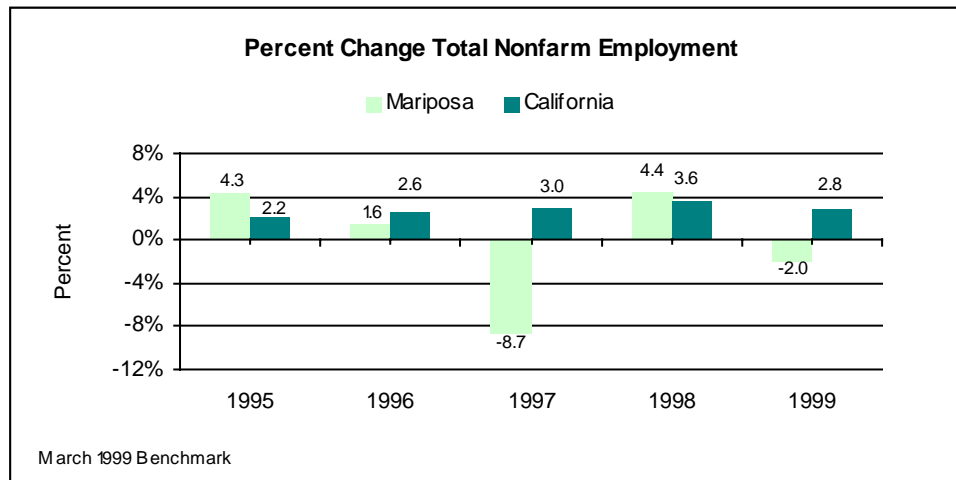


From 1995 to 1999, the annual average unemployment rate declined four out of the five years in Mariposa County. The rate has dropped 1.9 percentage points from 9.4 percent in 1995 to 7.5 percent in 1999. Neighboring Tuolumne County's annual average unemployment rate dropped 4.3 percentage points over this period.

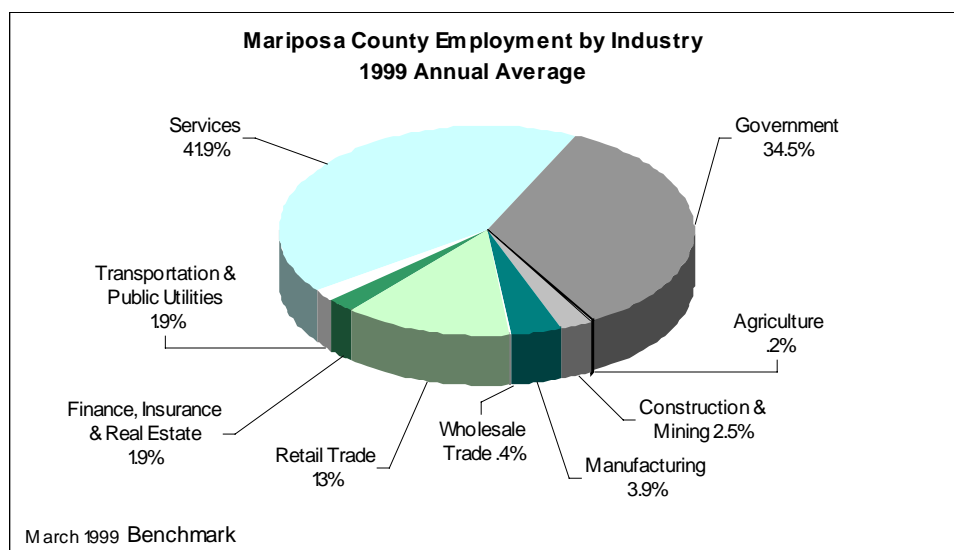


INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

As noted earlier, Mariposa County's fluctuating nonfarm wage and salary employment is attributable in part to the effects of a tourist dependent economy. Lodging, food and beverage, and retail trade businesses are central to the county's economy. Employment gains and declines are evident in the services sector, primarily in the hotels and other lodging places industry and in the retail trade sector primarily in eating and drinking places. From 1995 to 1999, the greatest growth in Mariposa County occurred in 1998 at 4.4 percent or about 200 jobs.



Services industry sector was the largest employer in Mariposa County in 1999 accounting for 42 percent of the total employment. The government sector contributed substantially with over 34 percent and retail trade accounted for 13 percent. During the 1997-2004 forecast period, these industries are expected to continue to generate most of the jobs in Mariposa County.



OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Demographic trends, shifts in demands for products or services, technological innovations and the way business is conducted are some of the variables that drive employment in an occupation up or down. Also, occupations which have large employment and have high turnover rates generally provide the most job openings. Mariposa County is projected to have more employment opportunities in these high turnover occupations. Projections for Mariposa County are combined with Amador, Calaveras and Tuolumne counties and published as the Mother Lode Consortium projections.

Associated Occupations	SERVICES 1997 – 2004 Projected Growth 42.5%
	Instructors And Coaches, Sports And Physical Training – 150 job openings. Instruct or coach groups or individuals in the fundamentals of sports. Demonstrate techniques and methods of participation. Moderate-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$10.78
	Maids And Housekeeping Cleaners – 140 job openings. Perform any combination of tasks to maintain rooms in commercial establishments, such as hotels, restaurants and hospitals, in a clean and orderly fashion. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$6.00
	Registered Nurses – 120 job openings. Provide direct bedside care and assist physicians with examinations, chart the conditions of patients, give medication, and administer treatment as ordered by the doctor. May supervise auxiliary nursing personnel. Associate Degree. Median Hourly Wage - \$19.52
	Amusement, Recreation Attendants – 110 job openings. Perform any of a variety of attending duties at amusement or recreation facility. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$7.43
	Waiters And Waitresses – 90 job openings. Serve food and drink to customers. Duties may include explanation about how the meal is prepared, wine recommendations or simple food preparation at the table. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$5.60
Associated Occupations	RETAIL TRADE 1997 – 2004 Projected Growth 28.3%
	Cashiers – 290 job openings. Handle cash and credit payments, make change, give receipts, account for all payments, and perform related clerical duties. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$6.93
	Salespersons, Retail – 230 job openings. Get the customer interested by describing the merchandise and showing how it is used. May also order merchandise, stock shelves, mark price tags, take inventory and prepare displays. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$6.92
	First-Line Supervisor / Manager Sales – 60 job openings. Directly supervise and coordinate activities of marketing, sales, and related workers. May perform management functions, such as budgeting, accounting, marketing, and personnel work. Work Experience. Median Hourly Wage - \$10.81
	Food Preparation Workers – 60 job openings. Perform a variety of food preparation duties, such as preparing cold foods and maintaining and cleaning kitchen work areas, equipment, and utensils. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$5.92
	Combined Food Preparation And Service Workers – 60 job openings. Do both food preparation and food service. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$5.80
Associated Occupations	GOVERNMENT 1997 – 2004 Projected Growth 16.0%
	Correction Officers, Jailers – 200 job openings. Guard inmates in penal or rehabilitative institutions in accordance with established regulations and procedures. May guard prisoners in transit. Long-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$20.99
	Police Patrol Officers – 50 job openings. Maintain order, enforce laws and ordinances, protect life and property in an assigned patrol district or beat. Patrol on foot or in a vehicle; investigate accidents; apprehend, arrest and process prisoners; and give evidence in court. Long-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$25.11
	Recreation Workers – 20 job openings. Conduct recreation activities with groups in public, private, or volunteer agencies or recreation facilities. Bachelor's Degree. Median Hourly Wage - \$7.90
	General Office Clerks – 20 job openings. Performs a wide variety of tasks. Clerical duties may be assigned in accordance with the office procedures of the individual establishments and may include a combination of bookkeeping, typing, stenography, office machine operation, and filing. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$9.03
	Postal Mail Carriers – 20 job openings. Sort mail for delivery. Deliver mail on established route by vehicle or on foot. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$15.57

This **County Snapshot** is a product of:
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Labor Market Information Division
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